

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKETING DEPARTMENT
NOTICE OF GENERIC WORKSHOP
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

The Public Service Commission of South Carolina has as one of its goals, "... facilitating the provision of safe services at levels of quality and reliability which satisfy customer needs for regulated utilities." The goal makes no distinction between service provided during normal circumstances and those which may arise as a result of a system emergency caused by weather, terrorist activity or any other cause. The PSC and those that serve the citizens of South Carolina owe it to those people to respond in a coordinated, effective way, to restore critical services as soon as possible.

The Commission is also mindful of the complex interrelationships among all of the utility services relied upon by the citizens of South Carolina --- electricity, natural gas, water, sewer and telecommunications. In general, what impacts one service or product can have major impacts on all the others. In addition, we can no longer prepare only for natural disasters. We must be ready to respond to the coordinated attacks on our critical energy, water and communications infrastructures.

The Commission is sponsoring a generic workshop on **July 11, 2005, beginning at 10:30AM** to fully explore these and other emergency response issues, and determine follow-up actions if needed. Participation from all parties, even those not regulated by the Commission, is necessary if we are to identify all the issues and develop a credible, effective plan to ensure continuity of service and the earliest possible service restoration under any emergency conditions.

The Commission looks forward to working together to improve storm response in the service areas of all South Carolina regulated utilities. Please respond **no later than June 17** whether or not you will participate in the workshop as an attendee and/or as a presenter. Shortly after the response date, a final workshop agenda will be put together and distributed to respondents.

Persons seeking information about the Commission's Procedures should contact the Commission in Columbia at 803-896-5100.

Public Service Commission of South Carolina
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